

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what would be the recruitment norms to recruit staff in the proposed Postal Banks; and

(d) whether this proposal would affect the Post Office Savings, presently handled by the post offices all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The matter of setting up the Post Bank is in the conceptual state.

(b) to (d) Do not arise at this stage in view of (a) above.

Financial condition of HTL

2427. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the financial results of Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd. for three years prior to disinvestments;

(b) whether financial conditions have improved after disinvestments;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the financial position by Government in view of CAG's report on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The financial results of M/s HTL Ltd. For three years prior to disinvestments are as under:

(Rs. in crores)			
Year	Total income	Total expenditure	Profit before tax
1998-1999	359.49	350.95	8.54
1999-2000	463.08	442.41	20.67
2000-2001	465.93	463.15	2.78

(b) and (c) After disinvestments, the financial health of M/s. HTL Ltd. was severely affected due to acute shortfall in working capital requirements and lack of orders from the market.

(d) After its disinvestments on 16-10-2001, M/s HTL Ltd. is no more a Public Sector Undertaking and the Government has no direct control over its activities. However, the Government through its nominees on the Board of Directors keeps a watch on the activities of the company. The latest report of CAG does not contain measures to improve the financial position of M/s HTL Ltd.

Recruitment of workers in BSNL, Almora

2428. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL, Almora has recruited workers on daily wages; and

(b) if so, the details of workers, departments, wage and duration of their employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Computerised post offices in Tamil Nadu

2429. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of computerized post offices in Tamil Nadu, district-wise;

(b) the steps taken to improve facilities on savings bank, insurance schemes etc. through computerization; and

(c) the steps taken to reduce the waiting time at various counters in post offices?